

Message Text

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11
ACTION OES-04

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 5993

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN; APER
SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT FOR DR. CHESTER W. CLARK, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO
THE AMBASSADOR FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

REFS: A. STATE 216353
B. TAIPEI 5871

1. SINCE REF B WAS NOT NOTED OR REFERENCED IN REF A, MY MOST RECENT
REQUEST FOR ASSIGNMENT OF A SUCCESSOR TO DR. CLARK APPARENTLY
WAS NOT RECEIVED IN TIME FOR CONSIDERATION.

2. DURING THE TIME I HAVE BEEN HERE, I HAVE NOTED THE INCREASING
FREQUENCY WITH WHICH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-RELATED MATTERS FORM
A PART OF THE EMBASSY'S DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS. WHERE THEY INVOLVE
SIGNIFICANT U.S. INTEREST AND OBJECTIVES, THESE WILL CONTINUE TO BE
RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH MUST BE HANDLED BY MY STAFF.
THE PRESENCE OF A QUALIFIED SCIENCE OFFICER HAVING A WIDE
ACQUAINTANCE WITH SEVERAL DISCIPLINES WITHIN SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO TAKE CARE OF THESE MATTERS IN A
TIMELY AND SATISFACTORY MANNER.

3. IN ADDITION TO AREAS OF DIRECT DEPARTMENT INTEREST, E.G.
NUCLEAR, TYPHOON CONTROL, NUMEROUS OTHER AGENCIES, GOVERNMENTAL
AND NONGOVERNMENTAL, PLACE REQUIREMENTS ON THIS OFFICE. AMONG THE
GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES ARE NSF, NAS, SMITHSONIAN, USGS, NRC, ERDA,
NASA AND NOAA. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE ROC SCIENCE-
RELATED AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE TO COME TO US.

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4. SINCE THE INFRASTRUCTURE IS ALREADY IN EXISTENCE HERE AND
WORKING WELL, IT WOULD APPEAR MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE TO
INITIATE REGIONAL OPERATIONS FROM HERE; IF THAT IS THE ROUTE TO
BE TAKEN, I SUGGEST YOU CONSIDER TRYING OUT THE REGIONAL CONCEPT

FROM HERE ON A TRIAL BASIS FOR A YEAR.

5. SINCE DR. O'CONNELL, WHOM I HAVE ASKED TO BE ASSIGNED HERE,
HAS ALREADY HAD EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN HANDLING NSF PROGRAMS IN
THIS AREA ON A REGIONAL BASIS, HE WOULD HAVE A BETTER-THAN-
AVERAGE CHANCE OF MAKING A REGIONAL PROGRAM WORK.

6. IF PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH REGIONAL OFFICE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE
THEN I WOULD AGAIN ASK FOR CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL REF B. THIS
WOULD PERMIT CONTINUED EFFECTIVE HANDLING OF SCIENTIFIC AND
RELATED BUSINESS HERE AT LEAST OVER COMING YEAR WITH POSSIBILITY,
IF DEPARTMENT SO DETERMINES, THAT SCI ADV OPERATION WOULD BE
PHASED OUT OVER THAT YEAR, ADEQUATE PROVISION BEING MADE MEANWHILE
FOR OTHER OFFICERS TO PICK UP ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS.

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